Office of Congressman Charles W. Dent

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Congressman Dent votes for tougher penalties for broadcasting violations

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent (PA-15) today hailed House passage of the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act (S. 193), which would increase penalties on broadcasters who run obscene or profane material on the air.

The bill would increase fines the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) could levy on broadcasters that air indecent programming over the public airwaves from \$32,500 to \$325,000 per violation.

"Broadcasting is a responsibility, which is why broadcasters need a license," Congressman Dent said. "This bill reminds broadcasters that they have a responsibility to the public, and there are rules that must be followed."

The Senate passed the bill on May 18, 2006; Congressman Dent voted for similar House legislation on February 16, 2005, which passed by a vote of 389 to 38.

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